



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/864,268 | 05/25/2001 | Takuma Sudo | 1046.1254 | 3194 |

21171 7590 04/19/2007
STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

| |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

YANG, RYAN R

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2628

| SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
|--|------------|---------------|
| 3 MONTHS | 04/19/2007 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/864,268

Applicant(s)

SUDO ET AL.

Examiner

Ryan R. Yang

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 and 40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 and 40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1/4/07.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/4/2007 has been entered.
2. This action is responsive to communications: IDS, filed on 1/4/2007.
This action is non-final.
3. Claims 1-38 and 40 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, 12, 22, 23, 33, 34 and 36 are independent claims. In the Amendment, filed on 9/6/2005, claims 1, 11, 12, 22, 23, 33, 34, 36 and 40 were amended, and claim 39 was cancelled.
4. This application claims foreign priority dated 12/22/2000.
5. The present title of the invention is "Event-for-change oriented information display method and information processing system using the same method" as filed originally.
6. The indicated allowability of claims 1-38 and 40 is withdrawn in view of the reference(s) to Kiyoshi (JP 2000-172403). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

8. Claims 1–4, 10, 12-15, 21, 23-26, 32, 34-38 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okishima (US 5,659,333) in view of Kurashina (US 6,297,836), and further in view of Kiyoshi (JP 2000-172403).

As per claim 1, Okishima discloses an information display method comprising:
displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 3B where the shaded area is a predetermined display area);
detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 2 where 1004 detects a scroll event); and
displaying the information by changing an attribute of a portion of the displayed information including a portion newly displayed in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 3C “After a predetermined length of time elapses during the scroll process, data displayed on the screen is reduced as shown in Figure 3D. Thus, a larger amount of data is displayed at the same time as shown in Figure 3A”, column 3, line 3-7),

wherein the display attribute includes a display size of a plurality of elements structuring the information, and/or a pitch between the plurality of elements structuring the information (Figure 3D where the data size is the attribute).

Okishima discloses an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima does not explicitly disclose the display attribute include a portion of the displayed information including a portion newly displayed, however, this is known in the art as

Art Unit: 2628

taught by Kurashina. Kurashina discloses a method of display image in which only a portion of the image is scrolled (see Abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kurashina into Okishima because Okishima discloses a method of displaying information and Kurashina disclose a portion of the displayed image can be manipulated in order to help seeing the changes in perspective.

Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima and Kurashima do not explicitly disclose providing at least one of a focus line and a focus column within the predetermined display area wherein the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed. However, this is known in the art as taught by Kiyoshi. Kiyoshi discloses a displaying method in which at least a focus line and a focus column is not changed (Figure 16, area 3).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kiyoshi into Okishima and Kurashima because Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method and Kiyoshi discloses a portion of the display is preserved in order to help seeing the displayed message.

9. As per claim 12, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information processing system comprising all the elements as in claim 1, therefore is similarly rejected as claim 1.

10. As per claim 23, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose a storage medium readable by a machine (Figure 1 11), tangibly embodying a program of instructions

Art Unit: 2628

executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising all the elements as in claim 1 and therefore is similarly rejected as claim 1.

11. As per claims 2, 13 and 24, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively, and Okishima further discloses wherein the display size and/or pitch of each of elements structuring the information includes a scaling factor in a moving direction of the display block ("the reference line in the reduction and restoration operations is fixed in advance or selected by a user. Alternatively, the reference line may be determined according to a direction or scrolling", column 3, line 40-43).

12. As per claims 3, 14 and 25, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of dependent claims 2, 13 and 24, supra, respectively, and Okishima further discloses said display information control unit scales down the display size or the pitch defined as the attribute smaller than in a normal display state for displaying the information in the predetermined display area (Figure 3D where the shaded area is the scaled down area).

13. As per claims 4, 15 and 26, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively, and Okishima further discloses said display information control unit gets the information displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 3D since the reduced area is proportional to the reduced elements, the direction of changing display block is inherently proportional to the direction of changing display attributes).

Art Unit: 2628

14. As per claims 10, 21 and 32, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively, and Okishima further discloses wherein the information is text information, and the structuring elements are characters of the text information (Figure 1, item 15 where the Display Data Storage stores the text data to be edited, column 2, line 15-16).

15. As per claim 34, Okishima discloses an image display method comprising:

displaying text in a predetermined display area (Figure 3B where the shaded area is a predetermined display area; Figure 1, item 15 where the Display Data Storage stores the text data to be edited, column 2, line 15-16);

detecting a manipulation of scrolling a display block of the text displayed in the display area (Figure 2 where 1004 detects a scroll event); and

displaying the text by decreasing a character size of the text with the detection of the scrolling manipulation (Figure 3C "After a predetermined length of time elapses during the scroll process, data displayed on the screen is reduced as shown in Figure 3D. Thus, a larger amount of data is displayed at the same time as shown in Figure 3A", column 3, line 3-7).

Okishima discloses an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima does not explicitly disclose the display attribute includes a predetermined partial display in the predetermined display area, however, this is known in the art as taught by Kurashina. Kurashina discloses a method of display image in which only a predetermined portion of the image is scrolled (see Abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kurashina into Okishima because Okishima discloses a method of displaying information and Kurashina disclose a portion of the displayed image can be manipulated in order to help seeing the changes in perspective.

Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima and Kurashima do not explicitly disclose providing at least one of a focus line and a focus column within the predetermined display area wherein the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed. However, this is known in the art as taught by Kiyoshi. Kiyoshi discloses a displaying method in which at least a focus line and a focus column is not changed (Figure 16, area 3).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kiyoshi into Okishima and Kurashima because Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method and Kiyoshi discloses a portion of the display is preserved in order to help seeing the displayed message.

16. As per claim 35, Okishima, Kueashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information processing system with all the elements as disclosed in the rejected claims 34, and, therefore, is similarly rejected as claim 34.

17. As per claim 36, Okishima discloses a method of display scrolling, the method comprising:

providing a document and a scrolling interface where a user smoothly scrolls

different portion of the document through a scroll view area on a display (Figure 3B is a document and Figure 1, item 16 is an scrolling interface);

when the user is not scrolling the document, automatically displaying the portion of the document displayed in the scroll view area such that characters of the document in the scroll view area are displayed with a first character size (Figure 3C is the size without scrolling);

when the user is scrolling the document, automatically displaying the portion of the document displayed in the scroll view area such that characters of the document in the scroll view area are displayed with a second character size that is smaller than the first character size, where a same character is automatically displayed smaller when it is being scrolled than when it is not being scrolled (Figure 3D, the shaded area is smaller than the original area).

Okishima discloses an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima does not explicitly disclose the display attribute includes a predetermined partial scroll view area, however, this is known in the art as taught by Kurashina. Kurashina discloses a method of display image in which only a predetermined portion of the image is scrolled (see Abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kurashina into Okishima because Okishima discloses a method of displaying information and Kurashina disclose a portion of the displayed image can be manipulated in order to help seeing the changes in perspective.

Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima and Kurashima do not explicitly disclose providing at least one of a focus line and a focus column within the predetermined display area wherein the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed. However, this is known in the art as taught by Kiyoshi. Kiyoshi discloses a displaying method in which at least a focus line and a focus column is not changed (Figure 16, area 3).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kiyoshi into Okishima and Kurashima because Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method and Kiyoshi discloses a portion of the display is preserved in order to help seeing the displayed message.

18. As per claim 37, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose a method according to claim 36, wherein when the document is being scrolled more lines of text are displayed in the scroll view area than when the document is not being scrolled (since the original area becomes smaller, it is inherent that more data can be displayed within the same original area).

19. As per claim 38, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose a method according to claim 1.

As for changing a stepwise scaling factor of the displayed characters in a moving direction of the display block, where the step wise the scaling factor may change rectilinearly and/or curvilinearly, the method is notoriously well known in the art and it

Art Unit: 2628

would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to use the method in order to save memory required during scrolling.

20. As per claim 38, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose a method according to claim 1, and Kiyoshi further discloses wherein a range of focus lines and/or columns can be specified by a user (see Figure 37).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kiyoshi into Okishima and Kurashima because Okishima and Kurashima disclose an information displaying method and Kiyoshi discloses a portion of the display is preserved in order to help seeing the displayed message.

21. Claims 11, 22 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Bricklin et al. (5,848,187) and further in view of Kiyoshi.

As per claim 11, Bricklin et al., hereinafter Bricklin, discloses an information display method comprising:

selecting a range of information from processing target information (Figure 13A and 13B where "Acme Sales" is the selected information which has a range of information, such as heights and widths of each letter; "targeting" is the process of selecting (column 12, line 24-33));

calculating a size of the range of information (Figure 13C; "From the bounds of each stroke of the entry, the bounds of the entire entry are determined", column 12, line 49-51); and

changing an attribute of the information, when the size of the selected range of information exceeds a size with which the information is displayable within a

Art Unit: 2628

predetermined display area, the information in the selected range is displayed within the display area by changing the attribute of the information in the selected range ("the present invention rescales the dimension of the entry so as to fit into the target cell", column 13, line 13-15; where the size is the attribute).

Bricklin discloses an information displaying method. It is noted that Bricklin does not explicitly disclose providing at least one of a focus line and a focus column within the predetermined display area wherein the display attributes of the plurality of elements structuring the information are not changed. However, this is known in the art as taught by Kiyoshi. Kiyoshi discloses a displaying method in which at least a focus line and a focus column is not changed (Figure 16, area 3). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Kiyoshi into Bricklin because Bricklin discloses an information displaying method and Kiyoshi discloses a portion of the display is preserved in order to help seeing the displayed message.

22. As per claim 22, Bricklin discloses an information processing system with all the elements as disclosed in the rejected claim 11, and, therefore, is similarly rejected as claim 11.

23. As per claim 33, Bricklin discloses a storage medium readable by a machine (Since this is a computer system performing the method of manipulating data), tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method functions similar to claim 11, and, therefore, is similarly rejected as claim 11.

Art Unit: 2628

24. Claims 5-8, 16-19 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi, and further in view of Hallberg (6,417,867).

As per claims 5, 16 and 27, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 2, 13 and 24, supra, respectively.

Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi do not explicitly disclose **the information is text information, the structuring elements are characters of the text information, and during the changing manipulation, the text information is displayed in different character sizes or at different character pitches between one or more specified lines within the display area and lines other than the specified lines, or between one or more specified columns within the display area and columns other than the specified columns, or between specified segments in the display area and a region excluding the specified segments**, however, this is known in the art as taught by Hallberg. Hallberg discloses a display method in which the area is scrollable ("this approach could be combined, for instance, with a scrolling control function", column 11, line 28-29) and a region between a specified region and unspecified region is warped in varying size and line width (Figure 12, area 84).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Hallberg into Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi because Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method and Hallberg

Art Unit: 2628

discloses a transition region between a specified region and unspecified region can be gradually sized in order to present a continuity view.

25. As per claims 6, 17 and 28, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively, and Hallberg further discloses **during the changing manipulation, the information is displayed in a way that sets a different attribute corresponding to a position in the display area** (Figure 12, area 84 where area closer to 86 is more magnified and area closer to 88 is closer to original size).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Hallberg into Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi because Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method and Hallberg discloses a transition region between a specified region and unspecified region can be gradually sized in order to present a continuity view.

26. As per claims 7, 18 and 29, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively, and Hallberg further discloses **during the changing manipulation, the information with the attribute changed is displayed in a part within the predetermined display area, and the information is displayed with a different attribute in other part within the display area** (Figure 12, area 86 and 88).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Hallberg into Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi because Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method and Hallberg

Art Unit: 2628

discloses a transition region between a specified region and unspecified region can be gradually sized in order to present a continuity view.

27. As per claims 8, 19 and 30, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively, and Hallberg further discloses **during the changing manipulation, the information with the attribute changed is displayed in the predetermined display area, and the information is displayed with a different attribute in a display area different from the former display area** (Figure 12, area 86 and 84).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Hallberg into Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi because Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method and Hallberg discloses a transition region between a specified region and unspecified region can be gradually sized in order to present a continuity view.

28. Claims 9, 20 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi, and further in view of Goto et al. (5,434,591).

As per claims 9, 20 and 31, Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claims 1, 12 and 23, supra, respectively.

Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method. It is noted that Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi do not explicitly disclose **wherein the attribute is set based on a speed at which the display block is changed**, Goto et al., hereinafter Goto, discloses a method of scrolling in which the displaced data

Art Unit: 2628

changes with speed ("the size of a pattern is enlarged or reduced in accordance with the scrolling speed", column 9, line 56-57).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Goto into Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi because Okishima, Kurashina and Kiyoshi disclose an information displaying method and Goto discloses the size of the display area changes with the speed in order to accommodate the processing bottleneck.

Conclusion

28 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan R. Yang whose telephone number is (571) 272-7666. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi can be reached on (571) 272-7664. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


RYAN YANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
4/11/07